

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 IGA-01 SSO-00 INR-07 INRE-00

NSCE-00 EB-07 /037 W

----- 107027

O 110957Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5004

INFO USMISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE

DOD WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI NIACT IMMEDIATE

JCS WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

CINCPACFLT NIACT IMMEDIATE

COMSEVENTNFLT NIACT IMMEDIATE

CTF SEVEN THREE NIACT IMMEDIATE

CTG SEVEN SEVEN PT SEVEN NIACT IMMEDIATE

MAC SCOTT AFB NIACT IMMEDIATE

PACAF HICKAM AFB HONOLULU NIACT IMMEDIATE

USS ENTERPRISE NIACT IMMEDIATE

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FOR AID/FDRC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON MP

SUBJECT: MAURITIUS DISASTER RELIEF

REF: (A) STATE 030318; (B) PORT LOUIS 0087; (C) JCS 1100472 FEB  
(D) STATE 029606; (E) STATE 028732

1. LATEST RELIABLE STATISTICS FROM GOM FOR WHOLE ISLAND AS OF  
EVENING FEBRUARY 10 FOLLOW:

DEATHS 9; INJURED 59; HOMELESS IN REFUGEE CENTERS 10,529; HOMES  
COMPLETELY DESTROYED 6,077; HOMES SERIOUSLY DAMAGED 6,382.

AVAILABLE STATISTICS GIVE ONLY PARTIAL PICTURE OF DEVASTATION TO  
POPULACE. NEARLY EVERY HOME RECEIVED DAMAGE FROM WATER AND BROKEN

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WINDOWS OR LOSS OF ALL OR PART OF ROOF CONSERVATIVELY AFFECTING

ESTIMATED 500,000 PEOPLE. MANY PEOPLE LIVING TEMPORARILY WITH RELATIVES OR NEIGHBORS OR CAMPING AT HOMESITES. WATER SUPPLY AND ELECTRICITY CUT COMPLETELY THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND AND ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO BE AVAILABLE IN SOME SECTORS. GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCING ON EMERGENCY RADIO THAT ALL PERSONS MUST BOIL WATER FROM WHATEVER SOURCE AS ALL WATER SUPPLIES ARE CONSIDERED CONTAMINATED. NEARLY ALL ROADS WERE IMPASSIBLE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CYCLONE, ALTHOUGH TRUNK LINES HAVE NOW GENERALLY BEEN CLEARED.

2. RE GOM REQUESTS FOR MATERIAL ASSISTANCE REPORTED REF B I RECOMMEND FOLLOWING PRIORITIES:

A) THREE 10 KW AND THREE 15 KW GENERATORS, AS WELL AS FIVE WATER PUMPS, 10 GPM (230/240 V. FREQ. 50 CPS REQUIRED).

B) 680 WATER CONTAINERS, PLASTIC, 5 GALLON

C) 15 WATER STORAGE TANKS RUBBER, 3,000 GALLON

D) 600 FAMILY TENTS, 10X12

E) 12 CHAIN SAWS, GAS POWERED

F) 20,000 DISPOSAL SYRINGES

G) 50,000 SWAB TABS

H) 100,000 DYSENTERY TABLETS

I) 25 HAND TOOL SETS

3. LACKING ANY SPECIFIC INFORMATION AS TO POTENTIAL COSTS OF GOM REQUESTED SUPPLIES AND TRANSPORT THERE TO I CAN (OMISSION) MATERIALS WOULD TOTAL DELIVERED HERE. MOREOVER I HAVE NO WAY YET OF ASSUMING OR ESTIMATING NATURE OR EXTENT OF OTHER POTENTIAL FOREIGN CONTRIBUTIONS. IN ANY EVENT I DO NOT RECOMMEND THAT USG ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE \$750,000 WORTH OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO MAURITIUS AT THIS STAGE. ALL I WOULD RECOMMEND NOW IS THAT WE ATTEMPT TO AIRLIFT MAXIMUM 25 TONS (I.E., ONE LARGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AIRCRAFT LOAD AS INDICATED REF A), PERHAPS FROM GUAM NAVAL SUPPLY DEPOT AND PREFERABLY THROUGH DIEGO TO MAURITIUS SOONEST.

4. MEANWHILE I RECOMMEND THAT SURVEY BE MADE IMMEDIATELY OF AVAILABLE MATERIAL RESOURCES FROM TG77.7 SHIPS TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY SUPPLIES THEY HAVE AVAILABLE COULD SUBSTITUTE FOR OR CONTRIBUTE TO FOREGOING PRIORITY LIST AND WHETHER THEY COULD CONTRIBUTE TO SOME ADDITIONAL LOWER PRIORITY NEEDS SUCH AS

MILK POWDER, MULTI VITAMIN TABLETS, COTS, TARPAULINS, HAND TOOL SETS, OR ELECTRICAL REPAIR KITS.

5. RE REF C: I RECOGNIZE THAT BUDGETARY QUESTION RAISED BY DOD MAY BE REAL PROBLEM FOR WASHINGTON AGENCIES. IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING FROM PARA 1 REF D THAT AID/FDRC PREPARED PROVIDE "ADDITIONAL" SUPPORT MEANT ADDITIONAL TO MY PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED AUTHORITY OFFER \$25,000 TO GOM PER REF E. IN MY JUDGMENT THAT AMOUNT IS NEEDED FOR ASSISTANCE TO RECONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING FOR CYCLONE REFUGEES, AND I HAVE MADE THAT COMMITMENT TO GOM. I DO NOT INTEND TO TURN OVER THAT SUM TO GOM UNTIL I RECEIVE ADEQUATE ASSURANCES THAT IT WILL BE EFFECTIVELY AND PROPERLY USED.

6. IN 3 1/2 DAYS OF RELIEF OPERATIONS HERE USS CAMDEN ESTIMATES THAT IT HAS EXPENDED APPROXIMATELY \$5,500 CHARGEABLE TO STATE DEPARTMENT. CAMDEN NOW PLANNING DEPART AS SOON AS CONTACT TURNOVER CAN BE ARRANGED WITH CTG 77.7 I STRONGLY URGE THAT ENTERPRISE BE AUTHORIZED TO ANCHOR OFF PORT LOUIS ASAP TO CONTINUE ESSENTIALLY SAME TYPES RELIEF ASSISTANCE AS THOSE SO WELL PERFORMED ALREADY BY CAMDE. MAIN ADVANTAGE I SEE IN UTILIZING ENTERPRISE AT THIS STAGE IS THAT CERTAIN VALUABLE PROJECTS CAMDEN HAS BEGUN CAN BE CONTINUED EFFICIENTLY AND RAPIDLY WITHOUT VERY GREAT ADDITIONAL COST CHARGEABLE TO STATE DEPARTMENT BUT WITH POTENTIALLY TEN-FOLD INCREASE IN MANPOWER INPUT NOT CHARGEABLE TO STATE DEPARTMENT. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.

7. I HAVE ADVISED GOM THAT THERE WILL BE TEMPORARY DELAY IN ARRIVAL OF ENTERPRISE AND ADMIRAL HARRIS.

8. RE PARA 2. REF A: SPECIFIC INFO REQUESTED WILL BE PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

MANHARD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF  
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